



Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities

*Celebrating 31 Years of Leadership &
Advocacy*



MEMBERS

Janet A. Neal
Chair

Richard Krzyzanowski
Vice Chair

Kecia Weller
Treasurer

Ruth Ann Acosta
Mary Chambers
Viola Vivian Corbett
Ernest T. Hamilton, Jr.
Michael G. Gureckas
Harley Rubenstein
Bernard Siegel
Alexia Teran
Steve Thompson
John B. Troost
Wendy Welt
Shelia D. Wright

MINUTES OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities was held on Wednesday, July 19, 2006, at Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Room 140, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Neal at 1:15 p.m. Introduction of Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, Commissioners, Staff and audience members followed.

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 21, 2006 MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Siegel, seconded by Vice Chair Krzyzanowski, and unanimously carried, the minutes for the meeting of June 21, 2006 were approved.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS FOR 2006-2007

Chair Neal acknowledged and thanked the outgoing officers of the Commission for 2005-2006, and presented them with a Certificate of Appreciation for their service.

Khahn Nguyen, Deputy Executive Officer, then conducted the Swearing in Ceremony for the new Commission Officers: Janet Neal, Chair and Richard Krzyzanowski, Vice Chair. Kecia Weller, the new Treasurer was not in attendance for the ceremony.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Osbee I. Sangster spoke about the need for equal access and opportunities for all individuals, particularly in relation to services provided by governmental agencies.
- Linda Block spoke about her support of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 and encouraged others to support this bill. Ms. Block also expressed her opposition to giving medical benefits to individuals without legal citizenship status.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Cont.)

- Bruce Kasper, father of Anique Jaqueline Kasper, a young woman who died in July of 1992 from AIDS after being transfused with HIV contaminated blood at Cedars Sinai Medical Center, spoke about his inability to obtain data from the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services and from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), pertaining to a study that revealed problems originating from Cedars Sinai Medical Center's blood bank. Mr. Kasper also reported that the Department of Health Services and the CDC notified him that the documents pertaining to the study had been destroyed. Mr. Kasper believes the destruction of these documents is unethical, and that an investigation into the matter needs to be conducted.
- Lisa and Maria Ogunleye, representing the Caring Medical Supplies and Equipment Company, distributed a flyer advertising their services.
- Mary Griffieth spoke about her discontent with the culture of the L. A. County Area Agency on Aging, and the operation of its advisory board groups.

CHAIR'S REPORT

- **Introduction of "Team Fundraising Concept" for 2006 Access Awards Luncheon**

Chair Neal informed Commissioners of an innovative and enjoyable fundraising concept she developed to raise money for the 2006 Access Awards Luncheon. This concept consists of building Teams of Commissioners, each representing their corresponding District (i.e. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th District), who will compete against the other district teams to raise the most money for the luncheon. The winning team will be rewarded with a lunch hosted by Chair Neal, at the New Otani Hotel in Downtown Los Angeles.

- **Introduction of City Commissioners**

Chair Neal reported that she feels a good relationship is developing between the City and County Commissions on Disabilities. Chair Neal is certain this bond will allow the two Commissions to combine their efforts to address the needs of the disabled population in the City and County of Los Angeles.

CHAIR'S REPORT (Cont.)

Chair Neal also reported that she received correspondence from the China Disabled Persons' Federation following their visit on June 21st. The

Federation expressed that they were pleased to meet with the Commission, share information, and learn about the efforts and advocacy on behalf of people with disabilities living in the United States. Chair Neal expressed that she will be sending the Federation copies of the Community Forum Radio Program tapes.

Vice Chair Krzyzanowski, reported that he would be representing the Commission and distributing brochures at the upcoming 2006 Disability Awareness Week at East Los Angeles College.

STAFF REPORT

Mrs. Ward made the following announcements:

- The Commission on Disabilities' website is expected to be ready on August 1st. The Commission has obtained permission from the Business License Commission to solicit and receive donations and sponsorships on the website.
- The Access Awards Luncheon will be held October 18, 2006 at the Los Angeles Music Center's Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in the 5th Floor Banquet Room.
- The 2006 Bill Tainter Scholarship Awardees have been selected, and were notified the week of June 19th. A presentation ceremony by the Board of Supervisors is tentatively scheduled for August 15, 2006.

DISABILITIES CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE SECTION (DCRCS)

This item was deferred to the next meeting agenda in August.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Public Relations Committee

1. Update on the Community Forum Radio Program
This item was deferred to the next meeting agenda in August.

B. Executive Committee Report

This item was deferred to the next meeting agenda in August.

C. Transportation Committee

1. ASI Report

a. ASI Update-TeddieJoy Remhild

Ms. Remhild reported that she met with auditors at Access Services and the organization is working diligently to improve the quality of its overall service delivery and technology. In addition, Congresswoman Lucille Roybal Allard has advocated for the allocation of \$250,000 from President Bush and the Congressional Budget for public transportation.

ITEMS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA TO BE PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA

Chair Neal requested that Mr. Bruce Kasper be placed on future agenda to share information in relation to his issue with the Department of Health Services and the CDC.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Neal made the following announcement on behalf of Commissioner Rubenstein:

CALIF will be hosting its "Disability Festival" to celebrate the 16th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on July 24, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event will be held at 5706 Crenshaw Blvd. Food, music, exhibit booths and free wheelchair cleaning will be available to the public. Commissioner Rubenstein has purchased a Commission exhibit table, and requested that another Commissioner man the booth from 10:00 a.m to 12:00 p.m.

Vice Chair Krzyzanowski thanked the audience and representatives from the Department of Mental Health for joining the Commission to witness the installation ceremony.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Present

Janet Neal, Chair
Richard Krzyzanowski, Vice Chair
Michael Gureckas
Bernard Siegel
Alexia Teran
John B. Troost
Sheila Wright

Excused Absence

Ruth Ann Acosta
Mary Chambers
Viola Vivian Corbett
Ernest T. Hamilton, Jr.
Harley Rubenstein
Kecia Weller, Treasurer

Board of Supervisors

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer
Khahn Nguyen, Deputy Executive Officer
Sandra Barbee, Division Chief
Jim Corbett, Assistant Division Chief
Dedie Ward, Staff
Martha Arana, Staff

County of Los Angeles

Kurt C. Hagen

ASI

Teddie Joy-Remhild
Jess Segovia

Guests

Carl Swirkal
Rone C. Ellis
Rainey Riley
Carlton Lindo
Donna Pomerantz
Marie Griffeith
John Longoria
Ebony Loot
Valorie Chatman

Maria Villasenor
Sophie Krzyzanowski
Jose L. Reyes
Lidia Krzyzanowski
Mandy Viso
Christine Marge
Maria Ogunleye
Jesse Padilla
Osbee I. Stangster

Roxy Orta
Luis A. Velasquez
Carole Matheus
Sarah Ishkhanyan
Kathleen Pich
Lisa F. Romero
Bruce Kasper
Sandra Medrano